

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4 and 12 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein and amend Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-18 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving a the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, comprising:

first detection means, arranged in the ~~controller~~ image display device, for detecting a first ambient environment around the ~~controller~~ image display device;

second detection means, arranged in the image display device, for detecting a second ambient environment around the image display device;

transmission means for transmitting a change of the first ambient environment detected by said first detection means to the controller;

first adjustment means for adjusting a first characteristic of the image display device based on the change transmitted by said transmission means;

second adjustment means for adjusting a second characteristic of the image display device based on a change of the second ambient environment detected by said second detection means; ~~and~~

control means for ~~selectively operating one of~~ displaying the image on the image display device based on adjustment results of said first and and/or second adjustment means in accordance with at least one of the detection results of said first detection means and second detection means.

2. (Currently Amended) The image display control system according to claim 1, wherein ~~said control means selectively operates one of~~ said first and second adjustment means ~~to perform an adjustment operation when at least one of~~ the detection results of said first and second detection means changes not less than a predetermined degree.

3. (Currently Amended) The image display control system according to claim 1, further comprising third detection means, arranged in the controller, for detecting a third ambient environment around the controller,

~~wherein adjustment operations controlled by said control means are distributed between said first and second adjustment means in advance~~ adjusts the first characteristic based on the transmitted change and a change of the third ambient environment detected by said third detection means.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3 1, wherein said ~~second~~ first detection means detects a change in brightness, and said first adjustment means ~~of the controller~~ performs an adjustment operation corresponding to a change in brightness.

6. (Currently Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3 1, wherein said second detection means detects a change in color temperature, and said second adjustment means ~~of the image display device~~ performs a color temperature adjustment operation.

7. (Currently Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3, wherein said ~~first~~ third detection means detects a busy telephone signal, and said ~~second~~ first adjustment means ~~of the image display device~~ performs a volume adjustment operation to reduce noise in accordance with the detection result of said ~~second~~ first detection means.

8. (Currently Amended) The image display control system according to claim 3 1, wherein an adjustment result of said second adjustment means is informed to the controller.

9. (Currently Amended) A control method for an image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving a the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, the control method comprising:

a first detection step of detecting a first ambient environment around the ~~controller, the image display device, said~~ first detection step being executed in the ~~controller~~ image display device;

a second detection step of detecting a second ambient environment around the image display device, ~~the~~ said second detection step being executed in the image display device;

a transmission step of transmitting a change of the first ambient environment detected in said first detection step to the controller;

a first adjustment step of adjusting a first characteristic of the image display device based on the change transmitted in said transmission step;

a second adjustment step of adjusting a second characteristic of the image display device based on a change of the second ambient environment detected in said second detection step; and

a controlling step of ~~selectively executing~~ displaying the image on the image display device based on the adjustment results in said first ~~and~~ and/or second adjustment steps ~~in accordance with at least one of the detection results in the first detection step and the second detection step.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The control method according to claim 9, wherein ~~one of the~~ said first and second adjustment steps ~~comprises~~ comprise performing an adjustment operation when ~~at least one of~~ the detection results in ~~the~~ said first and second detection steps ~~changes~~ change not less than a predetermined degree.

11. (Currently Amended) The control method according to claim 9, further comprising a third detection step of detecting a third ambient environment around the controller, the third detection step being executed in the controller,

~~wherein adjustment operations controlled in said control step are distributed between the~~ said first ~~and second~~ adjustment steps ~~in advance~~ step adjusts the first characteristic based on the transmitted change and a change of the third ambient environment detected in the third detection step.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) The control method according to claim ~~11~~ 9, wherein said ~~second~~ first detection step detects a change in brightness, and said first adjustment step ~~performed in the controller~~ comprises an adjustment operation corresponding to a change in brightness.

14. (Currently Amended) The control method according to claim ~~11~~ 9, wherein said second detection step detects a change in color temperature, and said second adjustment step ~~performed in the image display device~~ comprises a color temperature adjustment operation.

15. (Currently Amended) The control method according to claim 11, wherein said ~~first~~ third detection step detects a busy telephone signal, and said ~~second~~ first adjustment step ~~performed in the image display device~~ comprises a volume adjustment operation.

16. (Currently Amended) The control method according to claim ~~11~~ 9, wherein an adjustment result in ~~the~~ said second adjustment step is informed to the controller.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for controlling operation of an image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving a the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, comprising code for performing:

a first detection step of detecting a first ambient environment around the ~~controller~~ image display device, the first detection step being executed in the ~~controller~~ image display device;

a second detection step of detecting a second ambient environment around the image display device, the second detection step being executed in the image display device;

a transmission step of transmitting a change of the first ambient environment detected in the first detection step to the controller;

a first adjustment step of adjusting a first characteristic of the image display device based on the change transmitted in the transmission step;

a second adjustment step of adjusting a second characteristic of the image display device based on a change of the second ambient environment detected in the second detection step; and

a controlling step of ~~selectively executing~~ displaying the image on the image display device based on adjustment results in the first and and/or second adjustment steps ~~in accordance with at least one of the detection results in the first detection step and the second detection step.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a computer program for controlling operation of an image display control system having a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving a the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image, the computer program comprising code for executing:

a first detection step of detecting a first ambient environment around the ~~controller~~ image display device, the first detection step being executed in the ~~controller~~ image display device;

a second detection step of detecting a second ambient environment around the image display device, the second detection step being executed in the image display device;

a transmission step of transmitting a change of the first ambient environment detected in the first detection step to the controller;

a first adjustment step of adjusting a first characteristic of the image display device based on the change transmitted in the transmission step;

a second adjustment step of adjusting a second characteristic of the image display device based on a change of the second ambient environment detected in the second detection step; and

a controlling step of ~~selectively executing one of~~ displaying the image on the image display device based on adjustment results in the first and and/or second adjustment steps in accordance with at least one of the detection results in the first detection step and the second detection step.

19. (Previously Presented) The image display control system according to claim 5, wherein the adjustment operation is a contrast adjustment operation.

20. (Previously Presented) The control method according to claim 13, wherein the adjustment operation is a contrast adjustment operation.

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-20 are now pending in the application, with Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 being independent. Claims 4 and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein, and Claims 1-3, 5-11, and 13-18 have been amended herein.

In the Official Action dated June 30, 2004, Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as unpatentable over European Patent Document No. EP 0 778 516 A2 (Kerigan) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,172,719 (Kim). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection respectfully are requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants' invention, as recited in independent Claim 1, is directed to an image display control system. The system has a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image. The system includes a first and second detection means, transmission means, first and second adjustment means, and control means. The first and second detection means are arranged in the image display device for detecting first and a second ambient environments, respectively, around the image display device. The transmission means transmits a change of the first ambient environment detected by the first detection means to the controller. The first adjustment means adjusts a first characteristic of the image display device based on the transmitted change. The second adjustment means adjusts a second characteristic of the image display device based on a change of the second ambient environment detected by the second detection means. The control means in the image display control system displays the image on the image display device based on the adjustment results of the first and/or second adjustment means.

Independent Claim 9 is directed to a control method for an image display control system. The system used in the method of Claim 9 has a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image. The method of Claim 9 includes first and second detection steps, a transmission step, first and second adjustment steps, and a controlling step. The first and second detection steps detect first and a second ambient environments, respectively, around the image display device. Both the first and second detection steps are executed in the image display device. The transmission step transmits a change of the first ambient environment detected in the first detection step to the controller. The first adjustment step adjusts a first characteristic of the image display device based on the change transmitted in the transmission step. The second adjustment step adjusts a second characteristic of the image display device based on a change of the second ambient environment detected in the second detection step. The controlling step displays the image on the image display device based on the adjustment results in the first and/or second adjustment steps.

Claim 17 is directed to a computer program product for controlling operation of an image display control system. The image display control system has a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image. The computer program product of Claim 17 includes code for performing first and second detection steps, a transmission step, first and second adjustment steps, and a controlling step. These steps parallel those recited for the control method of Claim 9.

Independent Claim 18 is directed to a computer-readable storage medium which stores a computer program for controlling operation of an image display control system. The image display control system includes a controller for outputting a signal including at least a pair of video and acoustic signals, and an independent image display device for receiving the signal from the controller and displaying a corresponding image. The computer program stored on the computer-readable storage medium recited in Claim 18 includes codes for executing steps parallel to those recited in independent Claims 9 and 17.

Thus, in the claimed invention, detections of the first and second ambient environments are executed in the image display device. The adjustment is performed in one of the image display and the controller in accordance with the detection results. Moreover, the change detected in the first detection is transmitted to the controller by the transmission means and the first adjustment means adjusts the first characteristic based on that change, and the second adjustment is performed based on the detected change in the second detection. With the features recited in the independent claims, even if the image display device is located apart from the controller, control of the first or second characteristics of the image display device can be performed automatically in one of the image display and the controller, and the image displayed on the image display device is controlled based on the first and/or second adjustment.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art does not teach or suggest the features recited in Applicants' independent claims. Kerigan is directed to a hardware independent display device interface that allows dynamic configuration of the system upon power up or initialization. Applicants submit that the adjustment disclosed in Kerigan is executed only in the host system, not in the image display device and peripherals.

The device disclosed in Kim controls a color temperature in accordance with a detected environmental temperature. Applicants submit, however, that the device in Kim executes the adjustment in the video processor, rather than in the video appliance.

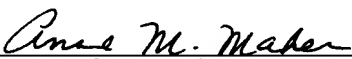
Accordingly, Applicants submit that Kerigan, alone or in combination with Kim, fails to teach or suggest the features recited in Applicants' independent claims.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention recited in independent Claims 1, 9, 17 and 18 is patentably distinguishable from the cited art. Dependent Claims 2, 3, 5-8, 10, 11, 13-16, 19 and 20 are also believed allowable for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective base claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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